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## EMS plans for potential emergency department closure

by CHRIS DROST  
Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Dec. 8 meeting of Haliburton County council held virtually.

Haliburton County council received an EMS (Emergency Medical Services) update from its chief, Tim Waite, at the Dec. 8 council meeting. He reported on the status of hospital emergency department closures and the impact on EMS. While there had been some concerns about needing to close hospital emergency departments during the overnight hours due to a shortage of nurses, Haliburton Highlands Health Services has been able to find agency nurses to fill the void, at least until late-January – though unexpected staff shortages could still cause a reduction in services. If the Minden emergency department had to be closed, patients at the south end of the county would be taken to Lindsay, while those in the north would be re-routed to Bancroft. According to Waite, the rule is that they have to transport to the nearest hospital.

“What would happen to the response

see EMS page 10



### Caroling out in the snow

Alan Cowan shines a light on the song sheet held by Janet Small at the Stanhope tree lighting event that took place at the Stanhope Museum on Dec. 10. The event was the third of three in-person tree lightings to take place in Algonquin Highlands over the past month, after being celebrated virtually last year. See more photos on Page 2./SUE TIFFIN Staff

## AH hears two-year update on septic program

by NICK BERNARD  
Times Staff

Kathryn Stasiuk Riddell, rural development engineer for WSP, presented a septic

re-inspection program update to Algonquin Highlands council on Dec. 9. In 2017 the company was hired by the township to implement a septic re-inspection program over the course of five years. Stasiuk Riddell's report covered the inspections that took place dur-

ing 2020 and 2021.

“I think we can all say that the last two years have been a bit extraordinary, in some ways,” she said. “In 2020, WSP conducted a voluntary re-inspection program, so those

see SEPTIC page 3



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### Stanhope sings for Santa

To kick off the Stanhope tree lighting event on Dec. 10, carolers sang *Santa Claus is Comin' To Town* until Santa Claus did indeed come to town to say hello to those gathered outside the Stanhope Museum. The event included a carol sing led by Susan Cassie, a bonfire to warm cold toes and a countdown to the lighting of the tree. Tree lighting events in Dorset and in Oxtongue Lake took place on the previous Friday evenings. /SUE TIFFIN Staff



Leo Thompson and Owen Thompson had a visit with their local family, and with Santa Claus, who — to the delight of parents — reminded children to prepare for Christmas morning by planning to “go to bed early and wake up late!”



Matt Faurey and Joleen Thomas welcomed guests to the Stanhope tree lighting event, which took place in-person with COVID-19 public health protocols in place. Last year the event was hosted virtually.

## David and Patricia Morton donate \$50,000 to YWCA HERS

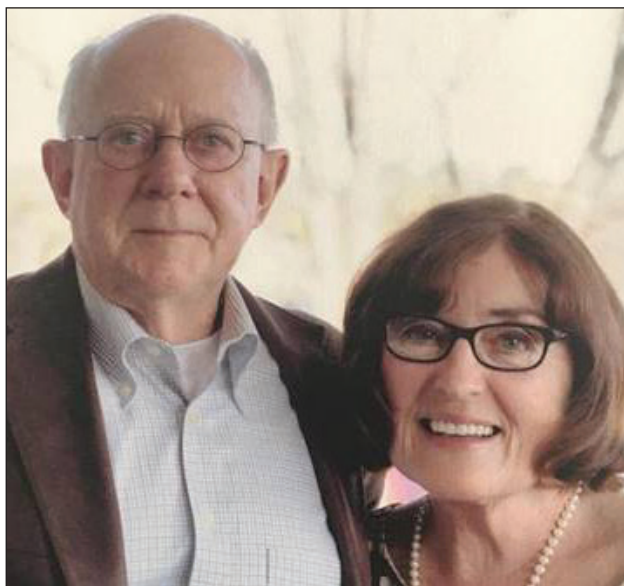
For the second year in a row, a Peterborough-based couple have donated \$50,000 to support women and children experiencing gender-based violence in Haliburton County.

Philanthropists David and Patricia Morton, through The Morton Family Foundation, made the donation this year to the YWCA Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace (HERS). YWCA HERS provides safe and supportive temporary accommodations for women, with and without children, who are fleeing abuse in Haliburton County. The service, designed to be available on an as-needed basis in order to help reduce costs, offers space that is staffed 24 hours for safety for up to two families at a time so that women can move away from the abusive situation in their home, without leaving their support systems, jobs and schools, friends and family behind.

Last year the Mortons supported the YWCA Women's Centre of Haliburton County Outreach Services with a \$50,000 donation.

“We are deeply moved by Patricia and David's positive impact in the Haliburton County community,” said Kim Dolan, executive director of YWCA Peterborough Haliburton. “The Morton's compassion for others is helping to ensure that women and children have ongoing access to our emergency SafeSpace, nutritious food, basic necessities, and 24-hour support when home is the most dangerous place to be.”

According to a Dec. 9 press release from the YWCA, the COVID-19 crisis has created a toxic combination of increased stress, isolation and job losses that is leading to a dramatic rise in violence. “This is especially true for rural women, whose physical distance from police services and lack of resources to assist in accessing safety and support greatly increases their vulnerability to gender-based violence,” reads the press release. “HERS has been fully occupied since January 2021



Through The Morton Family Foundation, David and Patricia Morton have donated \$50,000 to the YWCA Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace. HERS provides safe and supportive temporary accommodations for women, with and without children, who are fleeing abuse in Haliburton County./Photo submitted by YWCA Peterborough Haliburton

and rural women in Haliburton County have reported abuse that is far more serious and complex throughout the pandemic. Like women's organizations across the province, the

YWCA is facing heightened demand and increasing costs.”

“We are so happy to give this donation to such a worthy cause,” said Patricia Morton on behalf of The Morton Family Foundation. “We have been greatly inspired by the expertise and tremendous dedication which the YW's Haliburton staff bring to their work, both in providing women with safety and security to plan how to build better lives for themselves and their children, and in providing expert professional support services to assist their healing from trauma.”

“As a man I am just appalled and disgusted by violence against women and children,” said David Morton. “I am grateful at least to have this opportunity to extend a helping hand to the brave women who, with the wonderful support of our YWCA, are striving hard to empower themselves.”

For more information on supporting YWCA services, visit [ywcahaliburton.org](http://ywcahaliburton.org). Donations made before Dec. 31 will be doubled during the YWCA's holiday season matching gift campaign.

If you, or someone you know, need support please contact the YWCA's 24-hour support and crisis line toll free at 1-800-461-7656, by phone at 705-286-6442 or by text at 705-854-1591.

- Staff

### Correction

In the Dec. 8 edition of the *Minden Times*, “Land trust looking for environmental heroes” incorrectly stated the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust protects and maintains five properties in Haliburton County, totalling 12,000 acres of forest and wetlands. The correct number is 1,200 acres.

# Septic program helps educate residents on environmental impacts

from page 1

that participated in the program last year ... were able to do so voluntarily, and then in 2021, we moved back to our conventional model, which also includes the scheduling of inspection times to increase our overall participation.”

According to Stasiuk Riddell, participation had indeed increased in 2021. She said WSP has inspected 3,173 properties over the four years that the re-inspection program has been in place, with 966 inspections to be completed in 2022.

“Our results for 2020 and 2021 are, generally speaking, on-par with the results that we’ve been seeing in the previous years,” she said.

There were, however, some exceptions, as WSP has seen an increase in Class 1 sewage systems, which are defined as privies, outhouses, composting toilets, and incinerating toilets. Stasiuk Riddell also reported that WSP has seen an increase in Class 2 sewage systems in certain zones, defined as greywater sewage systems. She says this has led to an increase in remedial actions around those systems, that is, actions meant to address deficiencies in how those systems have been installed. There have also been a reported increase in Class IV systems receiving remedial action letters, but the number of failing systems that have received those actions remains low.

In responding to Stasiuk Riddell’s report, Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt expressed her appreciation for the program, highlighting that there was work still to be done.

“What we found is that there remains illegal discharged surface and greywater systems not present, so those kinds of things remain disappointing,” Moffatt said. “It’s great that we’re catching those folks and getting those issues fixed ... I would hope that folks would want to achieve more for the land and place they love so much.”

Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen wondered

what practices were in place to ensure remedial actions were being completed, because of the high number of properties that have required them.

“I just want to make sure we do continue to follow up on those that need remedial action, and that they don’t kind of go by the wayside,” Danielsen said.

“Yeah that’s all handled internally by our staff,” Moffatt responded. “And we have had conversations in the past when the program was initially implemented, and the size of the contract was shocking to some people and they said it was a money grab.”

“We had to keep pointing out that there was a ton of work afterwards that comes back to keep the program running,” Moffatt continued. “But yes, that work continues in-house ... We can probably get that from staff at some point, just where we are on those internal stats for follow up.”

Councillor Lisa Barry, whose own property is built in a sandy area, focused her question on the effect topography has on clustering, a decentralized type of wastewater treatment system that collects wastewater from two or more dwellings.

“How does [topography] affect the clustering?” she asked. “So, for instance, in areas where there’s more gravel or there’s more sand, does that elevate the risk?”

“So, one of the differences in the risk factors that would be considered associated with the soil type would be that the leaching bed sizing is estimated for all of the leaching beds that were inspected,” replied Stasiuk Riddell, who referenced a map presented in the report. “When we know the approximate soil type of the area, then we would estimate if the leaching bed is undersized based on the soil type of the area.”

“I think because of the cluster analysis, the density piece ends up being one of the biggest contributors to our representation of risk,” Stasiuk Riddell continued. “We are seeing more pump tanks and more systems that have filtered beds and these smaller beds as well in these more topographically varied

areas just to get our effluent up to a location that’s high and dry away from the water.”

Councillor Jennifer Dailloux’s question centered around educating the public on septic health after the partnership with WSP ends in 2022, and whether there were any key salient lessons that could be imparted on the general public.

“I think probably one of the prevalent ones that comes to mind is vegetation under leaching beds,” Stasiuk Riddell responded. “As we get through the program, I would have thought more people were aware that leaching beds should be maintained with short manicured grass, and if you start to allow that brush to grow and grow ... those dense roots can get into the bed and we don’t want that to damage your pipes and then, you know, ultimately require a leaching bed replacement.”

She said the cost would be greater to replace the leaching bed than to remove saplings and other vegetation.

Robert Passmore, senior rural development engineer for WSP, said that understanding what a septic system is and why they are needed is critical in terms of public education moving forward.

“It goes into the whole aspect of seeing proximity,” he said. “Looking at how a sewage system interacts with the surface water and groundwater ... if you understand how it works and how it’s situated, then you have to look at how you want to maintain that investment.”

He says that maintaining a septic system should have the same importance as maintaining a roof.

“I see most of the time pretty much everywhere you go ... you run into this situation where it’s an afterthought, it’s not proactive,” said Passmore. “What we’re looking at doing is offering up some literature and primers to be able to assist with the municipalities to upload to their website like a homeowner portal.”

“A tremendous number of people – even folks who haven’t been very happy with having to have the inspection, a lot of peo-

“

A tremendous number of people – even folks who haven’t been very happy with having to have the inspection, a lot of people have found it really interesting.

— MAYOR CAROL MOFFATT,  
ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS

”

ple have found it really interesting,” agreed Moffatt. “So that education piece has been partially inherent in the process.”

Stasiuk Riddell acknowledged the hesitancy from residents to participate in the re-inspection program, but expressed that the program has helped educate residents on the environmental impacts of their septic systems.

“One of the most powerful things about every inspection program like this is to be able to get knowledge of systems township-wide,” Stasiuk Riddell said. She said being aware of failing systems helps maintain the safety of surface water, and also helps maintain property values, whether or not repairs and replacements need to be made.

“It’s helpful, certainly, for us to catch those systems and get ahead of that,” she said. “I have enjoyed noticing that while there is hesitancy for some citizens to want to participate in the program ... people are getting a lot out of it. I’ve been thanked on-site, I’ve had people say ‘I’m so glad you’re doing this program because I know it’s going to be good for our lakes’. And I think that that’s one of the impacts that I’m really proud of.”



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**(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

**January 13 – Regular Council Meeting**  
**January 27 – Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at [www.minden hills.ca/council/](#) or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at [www.minden hills.ca/council/](#).

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

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**Seasons Greetings**

From the Township of Minden Hills Council and Staff would like to wish everyone in Minden Hills a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

**MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY HOURS**

<p><b>Administration Office</b> Dec 20th to Dec 23rd 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 24th at 11:30 a.m. to Jan 4th</p> <p><b>Cultural Centre/ Agnes Jamieson Gallery</b> <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 20th to Jan 4th</p> <p><b>Landfills</b> All Sites are <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 25th &amp; Jan 1st</p> <p><b>Community Services Department</b> <b>Administration Office</b> Dec 20th to Dec 23rd 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 24th at</p>	<p>11:30 a.m. to Dec 26th Dec 27th to Dec 30th 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 31st at 11:30 a.m. to Jan 2nd</p> <p><b>Public Works Department</b> <b>Administration Office</b> Dec 20th to December 23rd 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 a.m. <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 24th at 11:30 a.m. to Jan 4th</p> <p><b>Fire Department</b> <b>Administration Office</b> Dec 20th to December 23rd 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. <b>CLOSED</b> Dec 24th at 11:30 a.m. to Jan 4th</p>
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Regular hours resume Jan 4, 2022

**HOLIDAY HOURS AT WASTE SITES**  
All Minden Hills Waste Sites are closed on Christmas Day and New Year’s Day so our staff can enjoy time with their families. Happy Holidays!

**A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
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- Do not leave portable heaters on overnight.
- Keep lighters and matches out of reach of children.
- Do not leave the kitchen unattended when cooking. Unattended cooking was a factor in one-third of reported home cooking fires.

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# MH council considers cattle grate at a cost of \$283,000

by SUE TIFFIN  
Editor

A cattle grate replacement could cost Minden Hills township more than a quarter of a million dollars.

"To be clear, this report brings me no joy," Tara Stephen, acting director of public works, told council on Dec. 9 before she brought forth the report on a cattle grate replacement on Wessell Road with a potential cost of \$283,000.

Earlier this year, Stephen said the township had received a complaint regarding the condition of the cattle grate, which is installed on Wessell Road at the transition from the public portion to the private portion of the road.

"Staff at that time attended, inspected, saw no need for this cattle grate, and so decided that we could either backfill the hole, or install a box culvert, both of which are very easy, very inexpensive fixes that wouldn't have impacted the budget whatsoever," she said. When staff reached out to a local resident to see if the grate was theirs, or if it could be disposed of, Stephen said they learned "there was in fact an agreement between the township and this resident that the township would maintain that cattle grate in perpetuity. The resident has since provided us a copy of that agreement. I believe the agreement was signed in 1978 but it's still enforced today because of the in perpetuity clause."

Stephen said when the township then looked at the option of replacing the grate in its current form, it was determined to need significant engineering to replace it in the form identified in the agreement with the property owner.

"Councillor [Pam] Sayne negotiated with the resident to modify the design slightly to allow us to reach out to a company to do a design build on the grate itself," said Stephen.

The grate is now designed and constructed, but footings need to be built to maintain the grate for traffic passage.

One company, UrbanLink, has availability and is willing to do the work, indicating a price of \$225,000 for the footings alone, said Stephen.

"Additionally, there would need to be a pretty extensive road closure period in order to pour these concrete forms and do this work, up to four to six weeks," she said.

To offer access to the area to homeowners through the area where the road closure would occur, Stephen said the township could build a temporary roadway around the closure, or rent a temporary bridge at a cost of \$18,000, which is the option staff preferred.

"But because of the high cost of this project and the fact that it was not budgeted for, and it's not in next year's budget, we just need some direction from council," said Stephen.

Mayor Brent Devolin compared the situation to an episode of the Twilight Zone.

"It'd be like reading that we needed to continue to replace Stanley Steamers in a particular application," he said, not-



Replacing a cattle grate on Wessell Road could cost Minden Hills township \$283,000, which some council members called "preposterous." / Photo submitted by Tara Stephen, acting director of public works

ing he'd like a legal opinion to determine the township's responsibility with "an antiquated and out-of-date solution and agreement from the distant past."

"To go and look at it you'd think you're in a Twilight Zone," he said. "The cost of this, a quarter of a million dollars, this is preposterous, for something that's as simple, as you said, as a box culvert."

Councillor Bob Carter asked how many thousand heads of cattle were contained by the gate, to which Stephen said there are currently no cattle in the area, to her knowledge.

"I completely agree with the mayor, although I probably wouldn't have put it so softly and delicately and politically correct," said Carter. "... I suggest we put this off until we get a proper opinion and if it gets to the point where it's deteriorated so much for safety reasons we get a truckload of gravel and fill the damn thing in."

Councillor Jean Neville said that the owners of the property would surely see reason in negating the previous agreement.

"Are the owners of the cattle gate not willing to negate that agreement?," she asked. "It seems preposterous. And two, cattle grates that I'm used to knowing, if anybody walks over them they're rather scary and treacherous. Isn't there a health and safety issue as well, when there are no cattle?"

Sayne said she had been to the area several times.

"This is a disaster," she said. "It's been damaged by our trucks probably, by our snow plows over time, it's a dangerous situation. There are people who have had damage to their car already by this who so far haven't come forward to take any liability against this, but that might be pending, I don't know. It concerns me."

Sayne said it was still an active farm.

"If we want them to bring cows over, they will, if they need to prove a point," she said.

Sayne suggested before getting lawyers involved to have staff approach the owners to have a discussion about how to resolve the issue.

Devolin said he had no objections to a conversation to see if there might be a way to find a solution that is more cost-effective that will achieve the same objective.

"Have the conversation first, absolutely, if there's things that need to be done in the interim, to mitigate risk, sure," said Devolin. "But ... let me say that I think I've only seen one more one-sided agreement signed since I was here and that's for the use of the courts in this building. But this is a darn close second."

He asked if there were perhaps alternative solutions such as bolting the grate on top of a box culvert.

Stephen said it would require investigation.

"I've got to think there is a solution that will achieve the same objective on behalf of the municipality, the people that trek there and the people that own the property with the farm for a heck of a lot less money than a quarter million dollars," said Devolin.

Neville asked if the family knew of the complications and cost of the grate replacement.

"I don't know whether they have read the report or not, but it's bigger than a breadbox maybe, than in the '70s putting a cattle grate in the road," she said.

The cost of the cattle grate and installation of the grate is \$40,000, while the footings cost \$225,000 and an alternative access method during construction is \$18,000 for a total of \$283,000, which does not include HST.





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# Thousands still waiting for power in hardest hit areas

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

After Saturday's storm, many residents of Haliburton County are still waiting for power restoration.

According to Hydro One, damage is severe and power outages extensive after a massive wind storm swept through the province beginning Saturday afternoon and ending into the night.

"On Saturday, we saw an extreme wind storm come into the province, and that wind stayed out throughout the night, so over 100 km/h winds," said Richard Francella, Hydro One spokesperson, who spoke to the *Times* on Sunday evening. "This is one of the worst wind storms we've seen in recent years. As a result of the extreme winds we've seen the winds knock power off to more than 450,000 customers across the province."

While the most recent storm that was comparable was in 2018, Francella said, damage is still being discovered. On Sunday night, damage had included 200 broken poles and 53 damaged transformers, downed power lines and fallen trees but more was expected to be found.

"Our crews are still in areas looking at damage, assessing it, seeing how they can restore power."

About 24 hours after the winds began, 335,000 people had had power restored, while 115,000 customers remained without.

"We have deployed all available resources," said Francella. "We have additional

crews from other areas that weren't impacted as badly, to come in and assist. Our crews are out there in full force right now, making those repairs, because we're seeing approximately 3,500 active outages."

In the central region, which includes Haliburton County, 50,000 customers were without power on Sunday evening.

"We're seeing a lot of smaller outages in harder-to-reach areas so we're using helicopters and off-road equipment to assess the damage and to make those repairs, but what we are seeing in terms of the damage, it's really extensive and it's quite severe," said Francella. "We're seeing broken poles, we're seeing fallen trees, we're seeing downed power lines, so it's really important that customers stay safe and stay beyond the 10 metres of power lines. Through this damage we do anticipate some customers to be without power for the remainder of the day, and some customers could be without power beyond Monday as well."

As for customers wondering when their area might see power again, Hydro One's power outage storm centre map shows areas in Haliburton County with hundreds of customers and areas with fewer customers – Francella said it's correct that the areas with higher numbers of customers could see their power on first.

"We prioritize getting lights back on to the greatest number of customers in the shortest period," he said.

While most outages in the county were expected to be restored by the evening of Dec. 14, some areas were still being assessed at that time.

Other areas considered to be among the hardest hit were in Bracebridge, Parry Sound, Huntsville, Penetanguishene, Perth, Tweed and Bancroft.

## Record temperatures set on Dec. 11

Peter Kimbell, warning preparedness meteorologist at Environment Canada said the numbers recorded at observation sites used in the Haliburton County area are not representative of the peak winds we actually had on Dec. 11. Checking nearby observation sites in Algonquin Park, in Bancroft, and in Beatrice, Kimbell said the highest wind recorded was 65 km/h.

"So that's not generally going to knock out power," he said. "There were higher gusts, but we don't have any observations to document that."

He noted that forested areas near the towers would dampen wind substantially.

"I do know that in every case when we have strong winds, those sites in particular never really show them. Although they are there, and the fact that you have power outages prove that point."

Peak winds across the province were recorded in Point Petrie and Port Colborne at 130 km/h, at 115 km/h at Windsor airport and at Kingston airport at 108 km/h.

"They're not likely going to be that high up in your neck of the woods, because typically those higher winds are reported basically off of the lake where there's very little friction," said Kimbell. "With maximum exposure to the lake, given that there's no friction [trees, buildings, etc.] over the lake, or very little

friction, the winds are always higher there. Waves do cause a bit of friction, but there's much less friction over the lake than the land, and consequently the winds reported are always less over land."

Kimbell said Environment Canada's wind warning threshold is 70 km/h, or gusts to 90 km/h.

"Our warning thresholds are designed to kind of capture some of the impacts, so we expect that we would start to see impacts when we see winds sustained at 70 km/h or gusts to 90," he said. "Our observation sites didn't show that, but I just know that they often underreport what is actually happening."

While we've seen winds like this before, Kimbell said what is unusual is the fact that it was so warm, for December. In Bancroft, the temperature reached 12.2 C on Dec. 11. Bancroft's period of record goes back to 1882, and the previous record for temperature on Dec. 11 in 1897 was 11.1 C. Algonquin Park reached 11.5 C this past Dec. 11, which beat the record of 8.9 set on the same day in 1949. The highest December temperature recorded at a volunteer station in Haliburton was 14.5 C set on Dec. 5 in 2001.

"Warm weather on Dec. 11 has definitely happened before, but this would be the warmest Dec. 11," said Kimbell. "Consequently ... in winter time, if you're going to get anomalously warm temperatures, it's almost always because there's a storm funnelling that warm air up northward. Consequently if there's a storm there's going to be wind. They all go together. Is it unprecedented? Well, it's certainly very unusual, let's put it that way."

*Merry Christmas to one and all!*



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## Small, smart, safe

**W**E ARE all so tired. While there is still excitement and hope in our lives – for the upcoming holidays, for a booster shot, for a new year in which maybe this time we'll rid ourselves of the pandemic and also finally stop that pesky habit of eating potato chips for breakfast – everyone is exhausted. We all know how tired our friends, family and neighbours who work in healthcare, or education, or the service industry, or public health must be. But we're all finding everything – the masks, the distancing, the worry – a little more tiring at this point, at the end of the second year living during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I've been attending the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit weekly media sessions for a year now, first with acting medical officer of health Dr. Ian Gemmill, and now with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking.

Before a Q and A period, Dr. Bocking updates us on what is happening globally – such as when new variants have been identified or when vaccine trials were launched for children. She tells us what might be happening in the province with vaccine roll-outs or government plans to implement lockdowns or restrictions. She tells us about local epidemiology – in the beginning we heard about case numbers and hospitalizations followed by long-term care outbreaks, then we heard about new variants of concern and how many had been identified locally, and now we hear about school outbreaks and the percentage of people who have been vaccinated or not. These numbers represent not just cases of COVID-19 but our friends, family members, neighbours and residents of our community so the sessions can be emotionally draining. To Dr. Bocking, those numbers also represent the people she and her colleagues spend their working days caring for. We've even

seen a glimpse of her life outside of her working days, when her session is interrupted by a child, and it reminds us all of what she is also juggling during these times, too, just like us.

But still she comes back week after week. Admittedly, the same reporters have attended the session week after week too, and much of the information we hear and share is very repetitive. But we report it anyway, in case you didn't read it last week and you want to read it this week. If you want to skip it because you're feeling the fatigue, that's OK, too.

Though some of the messaging you'll be able to recite until your end days – wash your hands, stay physically distanced, wear a mask, get vaccinated – during the past two sessions, Dr. Bocking has stressed information about holiday gathering that should not be skipped over because of fatigue, because we're getting tired of not getting fully back to normal. At the risk of repetition upon repetition, I'm including it here to ensure her message is heard:

"We need to be cautious with our gatherings and our enthusiasm for returning to normal over the holiday season," she said at the Dec. 8 briefing. "Given the current trend in increasing cases, I think we will continue to see an increase across HKPRD health unit jurisdiction and now is not the time to be hosting large holiday parties with people from across different households, across different work places. Now is the time to be having small gatherings, to be engaging in smart planning of the gatherings, and also using safe practices ... small, smart and safe [are] our key reminder messages here."

We are all so tired. The holidays will give many of us a chance to rest, to rejuvenate, hopefully to reconnect with our friends and family. Please, plan to do so as safely as you can.

**SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

## Kwarky



## Success by association

**I**F YOU ARE a hunter and want to make a lot of new hunter friends very quickly, shoot a big trophy animal. Then post it online and wait.

Eventually you'll have friends you don't even recognize. This is because hunters – and people in general – have a strong urge to associate with someone who is highly successful. That way, when they show you a photo of their friend who got that trophy animal, they're implying this is the quality of animals that me and my friends are used to dealing with. This is why no one ever shows you a photo of their friend with a scrawny spike buck.

A big buck or other game animal will cause even the most honest hunter to stretch the definition of friendship in order to claim a tenuous link to a person who harvested it.

I learned this the other day when a friend of mine got out his phone and showed me a photo of a proud hunter posing beside what is a once in a lifetime buck.

He then asked, "What do you think of that deer?"

"That's a great buck," I said. "Is that one of the guys in your gang?"

"No," he said. "But he used to hunt at our camp."

"Do you know him well then?" I asked.

"Yes, he hunted at our camp occasionally five years before I joined it."

"You've been going to that camp for 25 years."

"Well, yes but he's also a friend of one of the guys in our camp who briefly knew him before he left," he replied. "And that guy is a good friend of mine. So we're pretty tight..."

"What the name of the guy who knew him?" I asked.

This was followed by a long and awkward silence.

"So, is the guy who took that huge buck a good hunter or was he just lucky?" I asked.

"Oh man, my buddy is a great hunter. Or at least that's what someone told my friend."

"The friend whose name you can't remember?"

"Yeah, that guy. He's a great guy too. Or so I'm told. He actually hunts in the second week of deer season at the camp."

"And you hunt the first week these days?"

"Actually, I haven't hunted at that camp for the last few years..."

"So you don't really know the guy who claims he once knew him either?"

"Not really," he said.

"How then are you a friend of the guy who shot the big buck?" I asked.

He pointed to the photo.

"By any chance, did you get that photo off of Facebook?"

"Heck, no. I don't do Facebook. A friend of a friend of a friend got it from one of his Facebook friends..."

"So the guy with the big buck is not really a friend at all," I said.

"Let's just say we have the kind of friendship that doesn't need constant contact," he replied.

"Or any," I added.

He looked a little insulted. Then he said, "Well, your lofty standards cause me to believe you don't have a lot of friends. Am I right?"

Of course, that was simply untrue. And just to prove it, I showed him a photo of my friend posing with a huge Nile crocodile. The one that I got from a friend of a friend of a Facebook friend...

**STEVE GALEA**  
Beyond 35

## IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

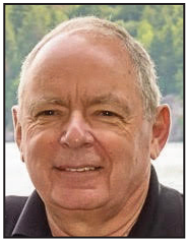
# Those ‘supply chain issues’

IT’S ENOUGH to drive a person to drink – if you can find anything to drink.

Ontario’s liquor board is the latest to announce that “supply chain issues” may result in some shortages this Christmas season.

Supply chain issues should get the Phrase of the Year Award. It is being used for shortages of everything from auto parts to toilet paper.

Toilet paper you can do without. There’s Kleenex, paper napkins, even leaves, if necessary. Anything reasonably soft can be a substitute.



**JIM POLING SR.**

*From Shaman’s Rock*

Auto parts are a different story. If there are “supply chain issues” with auto parts, cars and trucks don’t run. In fact, some cars and trucks don’t get built.

Evidence of that is found in scantily-stocked new vehicle lots. Some folks report having to compromise on the colours and options of vehicles they planned to buy.

Parts are a problem, as I have discovered.

I bought a new Toyota SUV at the beginning of July. I ordered it with a trailer hitch, bug screen and roof rack crossbars.

The bug screen and crossbars came in a month or two after I got the car. The hitch arrived sometime in early fall as I was getting itchy about pulling my boat out of the water.

The trailer hitch wiring harness still has not arrived, almost six months after buying the car. Any towing I do is without lights. I’m told that is legal during the day, but I’m not sure about that.

The hitches and wiring harnesses used by many vehicle manufacturers come from Curt Manufacturing in the U.S. I could have got one from them months ago but Toyota would have nulled my vehicle warranty because the Curt hitch and wiring harness would not have Toyota labelling and was not put on by Toyota.

I continue to wait, one of millions of victims of “supply chain issues.”

A trailer wiring shortage is minor compared to shortages of medical gear. Face masks, shields and other protective equipment are still in short supply in many places.

The pandemic has been blamed for continuing shortages. The most accepted story is that when the pandemic hit, factories shut down or reduced production because so many workers were ill or locked down.

Shipping companies then reduced their schedules because there were fewer goods to ship. This proved to be a poor decision because people around the world began working from home and buying home-office goods like printers, office chairs, video consoles.

Others with more time at home ordered renovating products such as paint and lumber. More cooking was done at home so there was a surge in demand for kitchen goods.

The spikes in demand created shortages. Prices of things that we could get increased.

That’s the commonly told story. There’s more to it than that.

To begin with, the pandemic began at a time of lean inventories. Goods were not overly abundant because companies had decided that reducing spending on building inventory increased profits.

Secondly, a major part of the problem is that we rely too much on China for things we need. Canadian imports from China are estimated to be \$75 to \$80 billion a year. A Canadian company might make a terrific computer you want but cannot finish building it without a chip from China.

We need to depend on ourselves more and use our own resources and people to make the things we need. Our federal government should think about that when negotiating trade agreements.

Meanwhile, shortages are not expected to end soon. Predictions are that there will be “supply chain issues” well into 2022, perhaps even longer.

We all will witness shortages this Christmas season, and not just at the liquor store. Several talent agencies have been reporting shortages of Santas for Christmas parties and shopping mall appearances.

Missing Santas are just one part of our nationwide worker shortage. A Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) study has found that more than one-half of small businesses do not have the staff required to run their stores.

Statistics Canada data shows more than one million job openings in September, 200,000 in the accommodation and food sectors and 131,000 in health care and social assistance services.



### The old barn

The sun rises on Sunday, Dec. 12 on the old barn still standing on Bobcaygeon Road. /Photo submitted by Guenter Horst

### letters to the editor

## Read more to know more

#### To the Editor:

Research also finds truth and knowledge in fiction, and improves your vocabulary.

Current research comes to same conclusions that HHSS master teacher Christine Carr does (“HHSS students finding truth behind fiction,” *Minden Times*, Dec.8): Those who read more fiction know more about the world and develop a greater understanding of others. (I served as

foreman of a jury about 25 years ago. After I read John Grisham’s *The Runaway Jury*, I realized I could have been a much better foreman.) Another benefit: Studies also consistently show that readers have larger vocabularies, spell better, and write better.

**Stephen Krashen**  
Professor Emeritus  
University of Southern California

## Lots of thoughts on Orde Street

#### To the Editor,

May I congratulate Adele Espina on her well-researched article on Orde Street.

She mentions that E.D. Orde owned Lots 5 and 6 Concession A as well as Lot 3.

I surmise that Lot 4 was owned by the MacKay family (of MacKayville fame). Lot 5 ran from MacKay Street to the school and Lot 6 from the school up to Fleming Road.

NOTE: Concession A was composed of “Range Lots.” These lots had 10 chain (660 feet) frontages on Bobcaygeon Road and were 100 chains (6600 feet) deep. (One acre equals 10

square chains).

It would be interesting to find out when the school (Lot 6) was built and the property changed hands AND when Lot 5 changed hands and became the other half of MacKayville.

Perhaps Adele Espina could look into the history of these two lots in another column. She certainly did a terrific job on the history of Orde Street.

Looking forward to more “History in the Highlands.”

**William K. Beers**  
Minden

### HCPL’s DVD of the Month - December



On Christmas Eve in Victorian London, young Clara Stahlbaum receives a priceless gift from her late mother – A mystical egg shaped box. To open it, Clara needs a magical, one-of-a-kind key, and finds herself drawn to places she’s never dreamed of in order to find it. Led by a shimmering golden thread, Clara is pulled into a mysterious world full of fairies and living toy soldiers, where she learns that her mother was much more than what she realized. There, she meets a soldier named Phillip, a group of mice, and the regents who currently preside over three realms, including the enigmatic sugar plum fairy. To retrieve the key, Clara and Phillip must venture into a nearly abandoned fourth realm. But things are not as simple as they seem. And little does Clara know, it is she who holds the key to the fate of this wondrous world. Check out *The Nutcracker* from Haliburton County Public Library today for a bit of festive whimsy and an all-star cast.

# Minden River Cone owners plan ‘pure magic’ downtown

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
*Editor*

A dead-end road could become the site of a bustling outdoor public skating rink next to the Gull River.

Monica and Ben Scott, the owners of The Minden River Cone, approached Minden Hills council on Dec. 9 proposing that the Dawson Hamilton Memorial Rink currently located at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre be relocated to the north end of Orde Street, next to the eating establishment.

“There’s clearly quite a bit of public demand for space that can be used recreationally, space that can be used as a social gathering point, and certainly we’ve seen plenty of school-aged kids that stop by that area after school or in the summer time they spend many days there,” said Ben.

According to the proposal, “anecdotal surveys have been conducted both online and through conversations with residents of the area, with 100 per cent positive support.” The rink, intended to be free and accessible to all public, is planned as “a destination for families in the area,” encouraging visitors to the downtown area. The Scotts said the rink could be made larger for the space, parking would be available downtown, and because the area is well-lit and highly visible, it could be readily available. With the rink in place, the Scotts said youth could acquire necessary volunteer hours to maintain it or teach skating, and it would help with the beautification of the Gull River shoreline south of Bobcaygeon Road.

“Minden already lends itself as the most beautiful village around,” reads the proposal. “However, driving across the main bridge [on] Bobcaygeon you see pure magic.”

“What a grand idea,” said Mayor Brent Devolin, noting staff would need to work out the “nuts and bolts” of the details of the plan.

“It sounds dreamy, quite frankly,” said Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell, adding she had questions about liability, and who would be responsible for maintaining the rink. “Very exciting, I love the idea.”

Ben said there is a growing list of local residents who were willing to volunteer to erect and maintain the facility to reduce workload of township staff. Monica added that she knew of funding that might be available to the municipality for the project.

Councillor Sayne thanked the Scotts for “paying attention to the needs of the community.”

“We all have ideas and good ideas but not everybody puts their feet to the ground and actually starts to make it happen, so thank you for this,” said Sayne.



Ben and Monica Scott, who own the Minden River Cone, made a delegation to Minden Hills council on Dec. 9 proposing the relocation of the Dawson Hamilton memorial skating rink to the unused roadway at the north end of Orde Street. /Concept drawings from Dec. 9 proposal

## Danielsen makes history as warden

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
*Editor*

Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen will serve her fourth consecutive term as warden of Haliburton County.

Danielsen spoke at an inaugural meeting of council on Dec. 14, acknowledging “a bit of a record in the number of consecutive years served.”

She also celebrated what the county has been able to do despite the challenges of the pandemic, making note of the service delivery review project and the shoreline preservation project, and also looking forward to the development of a community safety and wellbeing plan and review of short term rentals in the county.

“We have all come through a difficult couple of years, with the pandemic creating so many challenges for everyone, challenges we have never faced before,” she said. “But somehow our work has continued despite any and all adversity that we’ve faced. I’m very proud of what we have accomplished this past year and over our term, particularly given the scope of some of the projects we have tackled.”

Danielsen also called out “the extent of angst that all or most of council has encountered over the past year,” noting she has never, in many years of serving on council here and in the Northwest Territories, “been threatened by residents or business owners” and asked that “everyone who enjoys a home in Haliburton [County], whether full-time or seasonal, to remember that this council and all councillors across the county, work very hard to be those good stewards of the

county ... while doing their level best to maintain as fair a playing field as possible.”

“The role of a member of a municipal council can be extremely rewarding work, but there are certainly times when it isn’t a job for the faint of heart, and anyone considering filling one of these seats going forward needs to consider that carefully,” she said.

Danielsen said the community is growing and changing faster than anyone had imagined, and that there are service demands for affordable housing, attainable housing, increased paramedic services and medical services.

“We will need to adapt and meet those needs,” she said.

The warden is the head of county council, which consists of the mayor and deputy mayor of each of the county’s four lower-tier municipalities.



Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen will serve as Haliburton County warden for an unprecedented fourth successive term. /FILE PHOTO

# Elementary schools seeing highest number of outbreaks across province

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

*The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) district health unit press conference with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking, held virtually Dec. 8.*

Provincially, elementary schools continue to be the setting of the highest number of outbreaks of COVID-19, Bocking told media gathered at the press briefing. An outbreak is defined by two or more cases with demonstrated transmission within the school setting. While throughout the local health unit region, outbreaks have been declared because of two cases without further cases being identified, in some districts, schools have reported more than 20 cases during outbreaks. The morning of the press briefing, elementary school outbreaks were at the highest they’ve been since the beginning of the pandemic, with 239 outbreaks ongoing.

“I think we’ve been quite fortunate here in HKPR [region] to have not had quite the same amount of activity but we are starting to see increased activity throughout our school base population,” said Bocking.

To date in this school year, the HKPRD health unit has confirmed 47 cases of COVID-19, 20 of those in the past 14 days, with 14 classes closed.

## High number of high-risk contacts due to active school cases

Since the beginning of the pandemic, 2,612 COVID-19 cases have been identified in the health unit’s region. Last Wednesday at the time of the press meeting, there were 40 active cases – two in Haliburton County, 27 in City of Kawartha Lakes and 11 in Northumberland County. Connected to those cases, there were 335 high-risk contacts.

“That number of high-risk contacts is higher than previous briefings and that’s directly related to the number of contacts identified through school cases, so the entire class or an entire class cohort becomes identified as a high-risk contact and that really pushes our overall numbers of high-risk contacts up,” said Bocking.

The seven-day overall incidence rate continued to “creep up,” she said, with 22 cases per 100,000 people, a number that has more than doubled in the past two weeks and which Bocking said will continue to rise.

“To put this in perspective, there are some health unit jurisdictions right now that have incidence rates higher than 200 cases per 100,000, if we look to northern Ontario, Timiskaming region, Algoma region, are experiencing significant surges in COVID-19 activity and quite high incidence rates associated with that.”

HKPR region’s test positivity is at 2.2 per cent, which is also lower than in other regions, but which Bocking said is increasing.

“The amount of testing that’s taken place is really remaining the same, and across HKPR is somewhat actually less than other regions in the province, but the number of cases is continuing to increase.”

Four outbreaks in the region were ongoing during last week’s media briefing, those being the local Haliburton school bus cohort outbreak, the J.Douglas Hodgson Elementary School outbreak, patient and visitor cases at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, and two cases at a childcare facility in Lindsay. (See COVID graphic on page 3 for most updated information).

## Most cases now in the youngest age group

Of the 75 cases identified across the health unit’s region in the past two weeks, 18.7 per cent were identified in the zero to nine-year-old age group. Sixteen per cent of cases were confirmed in those 30 to 39, and also 16 per cent in those aged 60 to 69. The majority of cases in the past 14 days – 32 per cent – have been household contacts, with one individual exposed, and then spread within the household. Twenty per cent of cases have had no known source of exposure and 16 per cent are related to close contact.

Of those confirming infection – 453 cases have been identified since July 1 – 59 per cent have been unvaccinated, 4.4 per cent have had one dose but 14 days haven’t passed, 11 per cent are partially protected (have had a first dose and 14 days has passed or have had two doses but 14 days hasn’t passed) and 25.4 per cent are fully protected.

## Vaccination update

As of Monday, Dec. 6, 87.2 per cent of people 12 and older in the HKPR region had received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, while 84.8 per cent have received two doses.

The province recently celebrated the milestone of 90 per cent vaccination, said Bocking, but noted numbers in our local health unit region tend to be about one to two per cent lower than the provincial average. She recommended people continue seeking out vaccine, especially in light of rising case numbers and a new variant.

Approximately 13 per cent of kids aged five to 11 have received their first dose throughout the region, just under 1,500 kids.

“I think rollout has been quite positive and clinics have been well-attended, and lots of relatively happy kids – no one’s happy to get a needle in the arm – but quite supportive of vaccination overall,” said Bocking of the clinics.

A booster shot, or third dose of vaccine, will be available to those 50 and older as of Dec. 13, and will open up to those 18 and older at the beginning of January.

Children can certainly get the virus just as easily as anyone else, they’re less likely to become sick with it, and certainly much less likely to become sick enough to need to be admitted to hospital, but they can certainly get the virus to the same degree as anyone else and also have the ability to spread it onwards the same as anyone else.

## Reiterating holiday recommendations

While Bocking had shared her guidance on holiday gatherings in the previous week’s media briefing, she did so again at the most recent session to stress the message:

“We need to be cautious with our gatherings and our enthusiasm for returning to normal over the holiday season,” she said. “Given the current trend in increasing cases, I think we will continue to see an increase across HKPRD health unit jurisdiction and now is not the time to be hosting large holiday parties with people from across different households, across different work places. Now is the time to be having small gatherings, to be engaging in smart planning of the gatherings, and also using safe practices so that we’re being

... small, smart and safe is our key reminder messages here.”

Bocking said those planning a small gathering should “be smart about it,” and “look at the space that you have available.

“Consider whether or not you’ll be asking individuals that are fully vaccinated to be participating, or unvaccinated individuals. Engage in all of the public health measures we know do work to help prevent the spread of COVID-19: masking, distancing if you’re not able to mask well, washing hands frequently, cleaning high touch surfaces, but really the biggest practice that contributes to the spread of COVID-19, especially at this time of year, is large gatherings indoors of people from multiple households that will be in close proximity, talking lots, perhaps singing, but those venues are really the places where we see COVID spread fuel. So I think again, echoing the same messages, to really be looking at your schedules for the holidays, continuing with small gatherings, smart planning for them and safe practices.”

## Looking ahead at possible public health measures

“We’re not at that point yet,” said Bocking when asked if the public health unit might add further restrictions to help stall the rising case numbers. “We could reach that point. Definitely restrictions that limit the potential for people to be coming into contact with each other, so limit capacity limits or gatherings are a key tool in our COVID-19 toolbox to further limit cases that are increasing. There’s not a magic number at what point we say we need these measures to be in place.”

While the current local incidence rate of cases is 22 per 100,000, Bocking said “certainly if we’re getting up to 60s, 70s, 80s, that’s quite high, significant challenges at a health unit level, and we would be considering different measures that will help to limit gatherings.”

“I think if people take some of our messaging to our heart and limit their gatherings then we can potentially curb this current increase in cases. If the current trajectory continues to increase and starts to match that of other health units then I think we likely will move to having some further restrictions in place.”



## Blue jay way

Andy Sauter of Miner’s Bay sent this photo of a blue jay with a snack in his backyard. He notes that blue jays love whole peanuts during the winter months. /Photo by Andy Sauter

County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current High Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to Date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	3	28	0	163	159	4	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	33	91	2	1,400	1,322	55	45	13
Northumberland	15	71	0	1,094	1,062	42	17	0
Total***	51	202	2	2,657	2,543	101	63	13

## Numbers on the rise

Three new cases of COVID-19 were confirmed in Haliburton County in the public health unit’s report on Dec. 13. City of Kawartha Lakes confirmed 15 new cases and Northumberland County reported nine new cases in Monday’s report. As of Dec. 13, outbreaks were ongoing at Campbellford Memorial Hospital, My Tot Spot daycare facility, three elementary schools including J.Douglas Hodgson Elementary in Haliburton, and the Lindsay Minor Hockey BB Team. /HKPR screenshot

# EMS working out details of transport during potential closure

from page 1

times?” questioned Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts. Waite explained that “response time” is not how long it takes to get someone to the hospital. It refers to the time it takes for EMS to get to the person. This being the case, having to transport people farther would not cause an impact on the response times.

“Has there been any discussion with neighbouring hospitals?” asked Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin. Waite replied that he did not know of any. He clarified that the closures would probably be during the night shifts. He is not sure how many nights per week. It all depends on staff availability. “The potential for disaster is huge,” added Devolin.

## Hoping for funds to hire

Scott Ovell, Haliburton County’s newly hired director of economic development and tourism, presented his annual budget, which covered tourism marketing (digital, print, broadcast, branding and public relations), economic development marketing (investment and new resident attraction), Hike Haliburton, economic development programming and initiatives, and destination management plan implementation.

Ovell noted that an application in the amount of \$145,000 has been submitted to the Tourism Relief Fund. If approved, it will include \$120,000 for the position of content creator (12 to 18 months), \$15,000 for a targeted Ontario tourism campaign and \$10,000 for website enhancements.

Staff had previously allocated funding from the Safe Restart Program to support an economic development strategy. Staff will report back in early 2022 about any additional initiatives they would recommend using these funds for. Ovell also explained that staff will actively investigate other external funding opportunities throughout the year that could support council approved projects or initiatives. Ovell has already starting meeting with federal and provincial partners.

The tourism and economic development department operating budget is expected to come in under budget due to programming changes caused by the pandemic, and staffing

changes.

Some of the pressures on the 2022 budget are expected to include the fact that both the manager and director of economic development and tourism will be new. Additionally, it will be important to identify sources of funding beyond the county tax levy. COVID-19 issues continue to potentially impact programming, events such as Hike Haliburton and local businesses.

The budget includes an increase in wages by \$150,461 for the new director of economic development and tourism. This will be offset by \$100,000 from the Safe Restart Funding. Contracted services will decrease by \$50,000, which will be reallocated to software purchases in 2022. The reallocation for software purchases will also be offset by the Safe Restart Funding.

Following Ovell’s presentation, Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts stated that “we are all competing with other areas for tourism. What about this credit that the province is offering for accommodations for 2022? Do you have any ideas about that?”

“We will be coming back in early January to show how we can leverage these stays,” responded Ovell.

“It looks like an exciting year ahead,” said Warden and Algonquin Highlands Mayor Liz Danielsen.

## County draft budget updated

Andrea Bull, director of corporate services provided 2022 budget updates. The initial draft of the budget had been presented to council on Nov. 10. Based on council’s direction, she was on-hand to present an updated version.

The library board will have a decrease in wages and benefits and is expected to have an increase in revenue. Also, the tax rate increase is expected to be 3.21 per cent, compared to 3.53 per cent in the initial draft. An addition of \$5.1 million in assessment is expected.

“This second draft is less than the real rate of inflation. It has positioned us well. If some day they can unlock the freeze in MPAC and free up that assessment heading into six years of old data, it will take the burden off future councils. That

is how municipalities get their revenue. The revenue should flow from increased value,” said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin.

Warden Liz Danielsen expressed concern that it looks like it may be heading into using eight years of old data. She suggested writing a letter or making a delegation to MPAC. Since it is too late for a delegation at ROMA, council approved staff drafting a letter to be brought to the next council meeting for approval.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt stated that she did not want the letter to become one that gets circulated to all the municipalities across the province. “It should be our letter from the County of Haliburton,” she said.

CAO Mike Rutter said he did not like to presume what council has not directed but he has included nine months for support in the budget for a community and safety coordinator. The recommendation will come forward when council sees the final budget. “We have made an assumption we don’t normally do,” he explained.

“If we want to make meaningful and respectful change there needs to be a navigator. It is a good assumption, Mr. CAO,” said Moffatt.

“Who will pull this all together?” said Danielsen.

“You made a fair assumption and you know us well,” said Devolin.

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts noted that there will be more in-depth discussion about this later but she put forth the question, “Did other areas use a co-ordinator for their Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan?”

The Steering Committee will present on the afternoon of Dec. 15, with the goal of any changes coming to council for approval in January 2022.



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# HCPL adopts vaccine and remote work policies

by **SUE TIFFIN**  
Editor

The Haliburton County Library Board adopted two new policies at their Dec. 8 meeting held virtually via Zoom.

The COVID-19 vaccination policy notes the HCPL's responsibility under provincial legislation to take all necessary precautions to protect the health and safety of staff and volunteers, as well as the library board's responsibility under the Occupational Health & Safety Act to take every precaution reasonable to ensure the health and safety of library staff. It is based on the Ministry of Health, and both chief and local medical officer of health's recommendations for all individuals to be vaccinated against COVID-19, and acknowledges "the HCPL provides services to vulnerable populations."

Within 30 days of adoption of the policy, all library staff, library board members and library volunteers are required to provide proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or participate in a weekly rapid antigen testing program. Those remaining unvaccinated would be required to complete an education session.

"I made the same comment in the county's discussion ... I struggle with the education session, that feels very *Clockwork Orange* to me," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol

Moffatt, who sits on the board. "There's no reason under the sun why somebody wouldn't understand the reasons why they should, they're just choosing not to be, and I'm not comfortable with that. I'm not going to die on that hill, but I said the same thing to the county that I can't support forcing someone to watch a video that, in the world we live in today, they'd have to be living under a rock not to understand the science. They don't believe it for whatever their personal reasons are. I don't think making someone watch an information session is going to have any outcome, I just really struggle with that part."

Erin Kernohan-Berning, branch services librarian and deputy CEO, who has degrees in molecular biology and biotechnology, has been helping keep staff informed and education about misinformation during the pandemic and spoke to Moffatt's concerns.

"Most public policies do have an education requirement," she said. "It's not really all that different from us having to watch a health and safety video, which we do have to as a requirement of our employment. It really is just a training video. We're not really holding someone's eyelids open, à la *Clockwork Orange*, to watch it, it's just there."

Kernohan-Berning was thanked for the work she has been doing.

"I just think it's important to try and really meet people

where they're at, and then lead them to where we'd like them to go," she responded. "I'm hoping I've helped a bit with that."

Moffatt asked about the policy for patrons of the library. Chair Sally Howson said patrons are required to wear masks and distance. CEO Chris Stephenson said the HCPL was "following suit with libraries pretty much everywhere throughout Ontario," without checks at the door due to a lack of staff time to do so. He said he's always looking at ways in which the library can support staff well-being, and also temper the need for progress with safety.

The working remotely policy presented mimics that of the county, and is meant to be in place beyond the pandemic, allowing staff who can work from home remotely to do on an occasional or emergency basis.

"I mean, this is where we are," said Moffatt. "This is what the pandemic has shown us and taught us, is that that there's a high rate of productivity to be found, as long as the benchmarks and the productivity measures are in place. I think it helps us as a broader community be employer of choice, and just provides a good work environment."

The board also discussed the need for an emergency plan.

"I think we've learned a lot and it would actually be a good time to do it because now we've been through an emergency and know what we should do," said Howson. "We should make the plan."



## Library lockers in Dorset

Library lockers are being installed at Robinson's General Store in Dorset, part of a private-public partnership between the store and the Haliburton County Public Library to serve Dorset area library patrons. HCPL CEO Chris Stephenson said he has plans for "dynamic, eye-catching locker designs" which will be added to the lockers in the near future. /Photo submitted by Lee Ross

*Season's greetings*

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Kris Kringle comes to Kinmount

Denise Johnston and Darlene Walker of the Kinmount and District Lions Club gave their all helping visitors meet and greet with Santa Claus at the club's outdoor festive event held Dec. 11. /SUE TIFFIN Staff



Five-year-old Talon and three-year-old Athena Vanschie of Kinmount happily - and a bit nervously - met Santa Claus at the Kinmount and District Lions Christmas Craft and Candy event held outdoors at Austin Sawmill Park on Dec. 11.

Little Daynica Weerdenburg, 2, from Apsley was visiting Nana Chris Weerdenburg in Kinmount when she had the opportunity to visit another very important person. Daynica wasn't quite as sure about Santa Claus as she was about Nana, though.



Mia Crego, 7, from Kinmount, considered which raffle prize she might most like to win. To see her finished craft from the event, turn to Page 18.

Ontario government announces more than \$7M for critical infrastructure projects

Municipalities in Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock region will be receiving more than \$7 million to help build and repair critical infrastructure.

The funding was announced in a Dec. 8 press release from MPP Laurie Scott, noting it's part of the provincial government's plan to "build Ontario by supporting critical infrastructure projects that generate local economic growth and create new jobs."

"Our government has heard from small, rural and northern municipalities across the province on the need for adjustments to the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) formula and that's why we are taking action," said Scott. "Municipalities in HKLB will greatly benefit from this significant increase in funding to help get shovels in the ground sooner on important local infrastructure projects that help strengthen our communities and support long-term economic recovery."

Funding allocations will be based on a formula that recognizes the different needs and economic conditions of communities across the province. The new formula will include an increased funding minimum of \$100,000

for all communities per year, up from \$50,000 over previous years.

Local municipal funding is as follows: the County of Haliburton will receive \$630,334; Algonquin Highlands and Highlands East will each receive \$100,000; Dysart et al will receive \$364,433 and Minden Hills will receive \$226,985. Additionally, City of Kawartha Lakes will receive \$4,521,773; Brock township will receive \$809,855 and the township of Cavan-Monaghan will receive \$511,608.

According to the press release, the announcement is part of the government's additional \$1 billion investment to help build and repair roads, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure in small, rural and northern communities. The multi-year funding is being delivered through the OCIF and will bring the government's total investment to nearly \$2 billion over the next five years.

The OCIF supports local infrastructure projects for communities with populations under 100,000, along with all rural and northern communities.

- Staff



On the air for the food bank

Announcer Rick Lowes speaks to listeners during the Moose FM Radiothon for the Food Banks of Haliburton County on Thursday, Dec. 9 in Haliburton. Held from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 9 and Friday, Dec. 10, the fundraising effort pulled in \$42,336. /DARREN LUM Staff

# The intersection of fate, luck, and a really weird few months

by **NICK BERNARD**  
Times Staff

Hi, I'm Nick – reporter for the *Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times*.

That's how almost all of my conversations have started over the past few months. That first half is easy enough to get around – it's a standard greeting followed by my name. It's the second half, where I say that I'm an actual reporter for a real-life newspaper, that still absolutely blows my mind every time it passes through my brain and pops out of my mouth.

See, 18 months ago, I was living in Hamilton. I'd just moved out of a rickety old house near Tim Hortons Field to a newly renovated apartment in a soon-to-be-completely-gentrified part of town. I figured at the time I'd veg out there for a year before breaking into podcasting or voice acting or something, all the while keeping my funky little radio job where I was writing ad copy for hundreds of clients.

That Monday, less than 24 hours after moving the furniture, I went to work, only to be told to turn around and go home: I'd be working from my new apartment full-time for the next few weeks while we tackled this irritating virus that shares its name with a beer brand. If all went well, I'd be back in the office by June. That was on March 20, 2020. By April 3rd, I was unemployed.

And just like that, my new apartment had transformed into one part sanctuary, one part prison – and it stayed that way for 18 months. Eighteen months of something that felt like freefall.

Chaos theory is the idea that one simple change within a context can alter the entire outcome of a certain situation, and that the



Nick Bernard loves to tell stories. He has joined the *Haliburton County Echo*, *Minden Times*, and *County Life* as a reporter. /DARREN LUM Staff

various permutations in that context are predictable only to a certain point. Think of a hand throwing a fistful of coins in the air: You could predict the direction of the first few coins that start to tumble, but after that it's up to the coins. This has been what the experience of the pandemic has felt like. The virus is the hand, and I am one of the coins.

Now, to be completely transparent with you: The idea to move up to Haliburton was not my own. My parents live up here, and I live with them now. From there, I had a vague plan for how to make money and pick

my life back up from the shambling ruins they had turned into.

And along came the *Haliburton County Echo* and *Minden Times*.

I don't know if it was fate, or just the random crashing of a million tumbling coins, but the chance to start anew – with the kind of job that fits my character better than any other – was too good to pass up.

I love Haliburton County. I may be a city person, yes, but I love Haliburton County. It's been part of my life since I was a little kid whipping around Gull Lake in a tube behind

my dad's boat. The best summers of my life have been spent at Big Hawk Lake, where I made lifelong friendships at Camp Kawabi. I've even graced the Canoe FM airwaves, being the place where my eight-year cross-country radio career began.

I even owe my life to local healthcare workers, who, just this past New Years Eve, managed to catch my exploding appendix before it turned me into a firework. What a way to start 2021, hey?

The Highlands are more to me than a vacation spot away from the city, more than a place for me to park myself away from noise and congestion in weekend-sized chunks.

I feel this place in my bones, and to find myself gravitating back here is no surprise. There exists the very real sense that my work here comes from a place of unfulfillable gratitude. I've seen how relentlessly giving this community can be, and I love this place for it.

I also plainly see the broad challenges it faces, and the gaps that have left innocent lives hanging in the balance.

It's my hope that my work here will put a spotlight on what's changed, what needs to change, and the ever-careful steps we take together towards an uncertain future.

If you read my articles and actually learn something, then this will all have been worth it.

You can find me around town with my phone in my hand, probably playing Pokémon GO – Team Valor for life.

Also, if anyone has an extra spot at a D&D (Dungeons and Dragons) table, I have a half-elf wizard that hasn't rolled any dice for a couple of years. I can bring veggie snacks and a boatload of meaningless Star Trek trivia.

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# Haliburton County’s community radio station, as heard around the world

by **NICK BERNARD**  
*Times Staff*

Before Canoe FM went on the air in 2003, Don Cameron, Dave Sovereign, and Jack Hewitt were faced with the daunting task of building an entire radio station from the ground up. With help from the community, they managed to raise the \$100,000 they needed to purchase the equipment to get them up and running. At that time, it was all hand-me-down machinery that had spent years in service elsewhere, repurposed to fit within a little old house that was, at one time, a hospital.

Now, through the enduring generosity of the community, Canoe FM has been steadily improving itself, piece by piece. Gone are the stacks of CDs and tape decks, replaced by streamlined computer programs with all the music stored in an easy-to-retrieve digital format; An entirely new space was created from an old office, transforming into the Malcolm MacLean Radio Hall, with its characteristic mural and space for cafe-style seating, and the entire suite of audio equipment within it.

Canoe FM’s new board chairperson is Paul Vorvis. He’s been a Canoe FM volunteer since 2015. He spent three years as an on-air host before joining the board of directors. He says one of the most recent improvements Canoe FM has made has been the bolstering of its presence in the podcasting world.

“We realized probably four or five years ago that the radio industry was changing,” he said, making reference to streaming apps like Spotify. “Listening habits were changing, and we also knew that people were getting streaming devices in their home.”



Canoe FM's board chairperson Paul Vorvis is ready to continue the efforts of the local, largely volunteer driven radio station. Vorvis will not only serve at the station as chairperson, but will continue his on-air duties. /DARREN LUM Staff

To mediate this, Canoe FM currently hosts a number of podcasts, including Planet Haliburton, Medical Matters, Spotlight On Local Business, and Vorvis’ own Time Warp. Listeners can also pick up gardening tips from Master Gardener, and engage their imaginations with Tales from the Big Canoe and Thereby Hangs The Tale.

Vorvis says the listener location informa-

tion gathered by the podcasts’ analytics has been interesting, showing that Canoe FM has even gone global.

“I know Barry [Willhelm]’s Medical Matters, for example, he had downloads from all over the world,” he said. “I’ve had downloads from Australia, [the former Soviet republics], Brazil ... Ireland, and Germany.”

“We also find the snowbirds that go down

to Florida and still listen to Canoe FM,” he said. “They move out to BC, they still listen to Canoe FM. It’s really nice to reach out to that community.”

Vorvis said that it’s through the proceeds from popular programs like Radio Bingo that Canoe FM has been able to fund larger technological undertakings as well. By having the funds to upgrade its transmitting equipment, the radio station hopes to boost its coverage within its own signal range, filling in gaps where the station should be heard where it previously wasn’t, usually because of difficult topography.

“We know that there’s dead spots in the community that we’re just not reaching,” he said. “We’re doing a lot of analysis work to find out, you know, should we change our antenna configurations? Should we get repeaters?”

Vorvis reiterated that Canoe FM’s main focus will always be on the community. Part of the reason he joined Canoe FM, and moved to Haliburton on the whole, is that despite its size, it still has a vibrant culture attached to it, through things like the arts, media, and theatre. It’s with that perspective that Vorvis is approaching his role as board chairperson.

“For me, and for the board as well, and for the station management, it’s about building on what we have here and trying to make it just that much better. It’s such a great community from that point of view.”

You can hear Your Haliburton Morning with Paul Vorvis every Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. He also hosts Time Warp, which can be heard wherever you get your podcasts.

Hear Canoe FM around the clock on the dial at 100.9, or stream online through your home streaming device at their website at [www.canoe.fm](http://www.canoe.fm)

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Jacob Lloyd shields the puck from a South Muskoka forechecker.



Highland Storm success

Highland Storm U15 player Braxton Cooper drops the puck for a trailing teammate against South Muskoka Bears at the A.J. LaRue Arena on Friday night, Dec. 12 in Haliburton. The Storm won 5-2. Goals were scored by Guild (two), Bird (two), Jacob Davis and assists were by Layne Robinson, Carson Conlin and Davis. /DARREN LUM Staff

Volunteers recognized for celebrating athletes

Time flies when you're having fun. For Special Olympics volunteers Frank Boccitto, Teresa Clement and Lee MacLean, five years of fun has passed. Each was recognized last month for their long-term dedicated support of the Haliburton County Red Wolves with a pin acknowledging their five years of volunteer service. Learn more about the Haliburton County Red Wolves and how you might get involved as a volunteer here: <http://haliburton.specialolympicsontario.ca/>.

- Staff



Frank Boccitto



Lee MacLean



Teresa Clement

# EPIC LAUNCH

On December 3, 2021 Haliburton Highlands Health Services and our partner hospitals across the region will launch a new clinical information system called Epic.

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GENERATIONS



Lou Hawkins, in an academics and lifeskills class, prepares for holiday baking.



Shayla Newhook collects donations for the ASES 12 Days of Christmas Food Drive.



Students in Bonnie Tokar's junior and senior kindergarten class create a crafty snowman card.



Kindergarten students get creative during an art assignment.

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

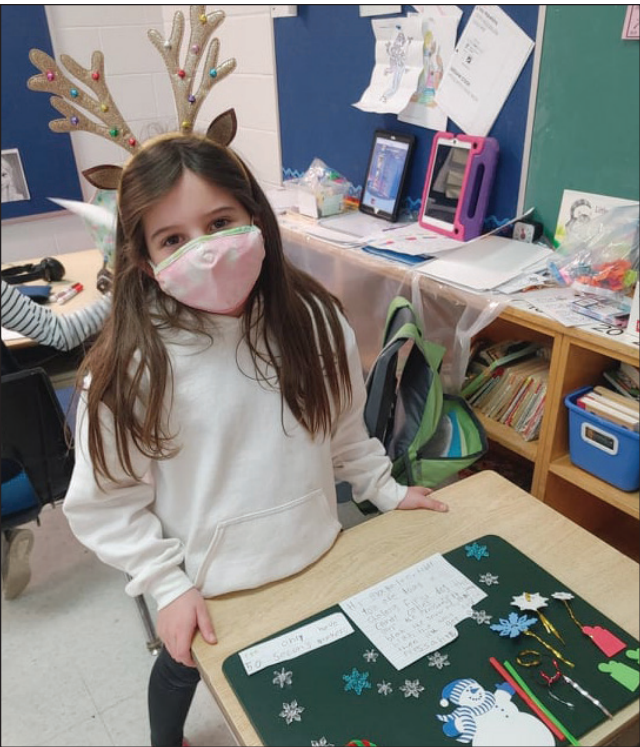
Answers on page 18

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



Kindergarten students show off the creation they made to give to friends at Hyland Crest – read more about this project in the special Season's Greetings section of the Dec. 16 edition of *County Life* included with this paper.



Blakelee Harrison, creating a winter scene with loose parts.

## HISTORY IN THE HIGHLANDS

# Who was Langton of Minden's Langton Street?

ON THE MINDEN 1879 town lot map showing Ernest Dunsford Orde's 29 lots, (*Minden Times*, Dec 1, page 15), there is a Langton Street, running west from the Bobcaygeon Road where today's Deep Bay Road starts. But who was Langton?

In Nila Reynold's book "In Quest of Yesterday", there is a James Langton listed as our first reeve of Minden Township. He served one brief term in 1874, the year Haliburton County was formed from 20 townships carved away from Peterborough



**ADELE ESPINA**

*History in the Highlands*

County and three (Anson, Lutterworth & Hindon) from Victoria County.

James Langton had arrived in Minden with his family in the mid-1860s. Prior to that, he was a boarding house keeper in Peterborough. In a dizzying series of land transactions over the next decade, he and his wife Agnes acquired holdings in Anson, Minden and Lutterworth. He became both a farmer and a merchant.

His farm, which he purchased in 1868, was located at Lot 4, Con. A, Anson, the site of today's MacKayville subdivision. Langton Street abutted his lot along its southern border.

His store was on the west (Anson) side of the Bobcaygeon Road in the village, just south of today's Dominion Hotel, on Town Lot 2 that he leased from E.D. Orde. This store location was later the office of Dr. Agnes Jamieson.

His business woes appear to have started around 1875, when he began assigning and mortgaging his properties to creditors, mostly Toronto suppliers, to satisfy debts or to continue credit relationships. This did not stop him from continuing to purchase land, including Lot 5, Con. A, Anson, where Archie Stouffer Elementary School is located. He purchased 99 acres there in 1876 from E.D. Orde, excluding the one acre school lot in the south east corner. Orde unwisely took back a mortgage on the property.

By early 1877, he was in serious financial trouble. An entry in the General Register at the local land registry describes a writ of seizure that was filed in Lindsay court against him and his properties by William Thompson and John Burns, asking that "the Estate and Effects, Moneys and Securities for money vouchers, and all the office and business papers and accounts of every kind and nature whatsoever" be attached until the court could decide on liquidating his assets to satisfy his debts.

He was in good company. Samuel Stanley Peck and William McKelvey had both found themselves noted in the General Register for the same reason the year before.

Documents describing his troubles survive at the Archives of Ontario which holds "records relating to the insolvency of James Langton. Records include: cancelled cheques, cheque stubs, promissory notes, a copy of the 1875 Act of Insolvency for James Langton, proceedings of a meeting regarding the Langton estate, power of attorney records, telegrams and correspondence, accounts, bank statements, receipts, dividend sheets, lists of assets and liabilities, stock lists, tax bills, a summons, a notice to produce, a deed of transfer, claims against the estate from suppliers and local tradespeople, and notices of public auction and sale of James Langton's farm lands and other property."

Like Ernest Dunsford Orde, he too left Minden and headed west. He quickly re-established himself in what was then Dakota Territory, on land just across the border from Manitoba.

A summer 1879 paragraph in the Port Perry *Northern Ontario Observer* mentions this article from a southern Manitoba newspaper: "The *Emerson International* says: — Mr. James Langton who owns nearly 1,000 acres on the Pembina River, seven miles west of here, is said to have 110 acres of as fine looking wheat and oats as one could wish to see. The seed for the wheat was grown on Mr. Bradley's farm, in the suburbs of Emerson. The case of Mr. Langton is an example of what energy can accomplish in the Red River Valley. Formerly in business near Peterborough, Ont., and unfortunate or unsuccessful, he concluded to try his fortunes in this country, and bringing his family with him, came here one year ago, and by homesteading, pre-empting, and other ways, secured about 1,000 acres of valuable land on the Pembina River, and went to farming in earnest. Next year, he expects to have 250 acres in crop."

By 1884, an article in the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* states that "James Langton, also of Pembina County, said that he had induced 200 good men to settle in his neighbourhood."

His 1904 obituary, which named him as one of Richfield's honoured citizens, indicated that he had become a resident of North Dakota in 1878, but had lived in Richfield, a suburb of Minneapolis, Minnesota, since 1892. "Although an active farmer before he came to Richfield, he has lived a practically retired life since."

The name Langton Street in the village of Minden disappeared, just like local memories of James Langton. By early in the 20th century, it was called the Gull River Road.

**INSOLVENT ACT OF 1875.**  
In the Matter of **JAMES LANGTON**, an Insolvent.

**SALE OF FARM LANDS! MORTGAGES.**  
**Book Debts, Notes and other Property**  
**BY PUBLIC AUCTION.**

The interest of the above named Insolvent in the following Lands and Property, which is vested in me in my capacity of Assignee under the provisions of the above Act, will be offered for sale by Public Auction, at the Store of the said Insolvent in the VILLAGE OF MINDEN, in the Provisional County of Haliburton, on

**WEDNESDAY, 17th DAY OF APRIL**  
NOW NEXT, AT TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON.

**FARM LANDS:**

1st. Lot Number Fourteen, in the fourth concession of Lutterworth, in said Provisional County, 132 acres. Subject to a mortgage from one Thomas Hanson to William Langton, for \$300 and interest.

2nd. Part of Lot Number Fifteen, in the second concession of Minden, in said Provisional County, 54 acres. There are 82 acres more or less, in this Lot, and the whole lot is subject to a mortgage from Christiana Orge to William Langton, for \$300 and interest.

3rd. Lots Number Ten, Eleven and Twelve, in the sixth concession of Minden aforesaid. Subject to a mortgage thereon from James Langton for \$1000, upon which there is now due about \$1000 and interest.

4th. Lot Number Five, concession A, in the Township of Anson, in the said Provisional County, 100 acres, less one acre sold to the Trustees of School Section Number Six, Minden and Anson. There is a mortgage on this Lot, upon which there is a balance of about \$100 unpaid.

**ALSO SEVERAL MORTGAGES**  
on Real Estate and Chattel Mortgages, made in part in the said Provisional County, for various sums, particulars of which can be seen at the Law Office of D. G. Hutton, in Peterborough, and Messrs. Ketchum and McDowell in Lindsay, and from myself at the Village of Minden. Also, all the

**BOOK DEBTS and PROMISSORY NOTES**  
Held by me as such Assignee, amounting in the aggregate to about \$24,000, a list of which can be seen at the Law Office mentioned, and further particulars respecting which can be had from me at the said Village, where the Books, Notes, &c. may be inspected. The Book Debts and Promissory Notes will be offered at so much in the Dollar. Also, all the

**GOODS, CHATTELS and FARMING IMPLEMENTS**  
remaining unsold, including a number of SHEEP.

Further particulars as to Terms may be learned on application to the Inspectors, Mr. King, of King & Brown, Toronto, Mr. Bryant, at Messrs. Dobbie & Carter's, Toronto, and Mr. Chicago, "Review" Office, Peterborough. Also from D. G. Hutton, Solicitor for the said Estate, Peterborough, and from myself at Minden. The Sale is made pursuant to a resolution of the Creditors, and will be without Reserve, as the Estate must be wound up.

**J. H. DELAMERE,**  
Assignee of said James Langton

Minden, March 29th, 1878. (Review Steam Press.)

1878 notice of public auction and sale of James Langton's farm lands and other property./ Sourced from Canadiana.ca <https://www.canadiana.ca/view/oocihm.59685>

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

**Thank you for your continued patronage and support.**

Paul Banelopoulos	April Martin
Nick Bernard	Jennifer McEathron
Debbie Comer	Stacey Potalivo
Pat Lewis	Laura Smith
Karen London	Sue Tiffin
Darren Lum	David Zilstra

**THE ECHO** HALIBURTON COUNTY

**The Times** MINDEN, ONTARIO

**CountyLife**

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AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



0 Christmas craft

Mia Crego shows off the decorative masterpiece she created with craft materials from the Kinmount Lions second annual Christmas Craft and Candy event, and with a little help from nature. /Photo submitted

To see your loved ones  
on this page, send photos  
to sue@haliburtonpress.com



Local Landmark of the month

The Peter Overington Bridge. Named for a past president of the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association - HCSA, the bridge spans the Beech River in the village of Stanhope, and is a vital year-round trail link. During the winter it is part of one of the busiest snowmobile trails in the Haliburton Highlands: the Top B trail. The Top B spans the northern part of the county, connecting the Haliburton Highlands with Bracebridge to the West and Whitney to the north and is part of the 850 km Round Algonquin Park loop: one of the premier snowmobile destinations in North America. The bridge, easily accessible by car, is one of the most impressive non-highway bridges in the Haliburton Highlands, and a worthy destination in it's own right. The views of Beech Lake and the Beech River are beautiful. Combine it with a hike up the James Cooper Overlook for a great local road trip. This is part of a Local Landmark series brought to you by the Haliburton Highlands tourism team. Every week we feature a different historic or cultural landmark found in the Haliburton Highlands. Follow Haliburton Highlands on Instagram or Facebook to see the weekly features from throughout the county.



The EarlyON Child & Family Centre is currently seeking Board Members to serve on the Board of Directors.

We are a non-profit agency that is funded by the Ministry of Education to offer programs for children 0- 6 years and their parents, grandparents and caregivers in the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County.

- Volunteer commitment of 2 - 4 hours per month
- Presently, virtual meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month - starting at 5:30 p.m.

If interested please contact us  
P: 705-324-7900 E: admin@oeyc.ca  
www.oeyc.ca

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2	4	7	9	3	6	8	1	5
9	8	1	7	4	5	6	2	3
7	1	3	6	5	9	2	8	4
6	2	9	8	7	4	5	3	1
4	5	8	3	2	1	9	7	6
1	9	2	4	6	7	3	5	8
5	3	4	2	9	8	1	6	7
8	7	6	5	1	3	4	9	2

# Minden Times Classifieds

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### 200 FOR SALE

**HONEY FOR SALE:** Pure unpasteurized honey available in clover or goldenrod. Helps with seasonal allergies. **CALL TOM** in Minden for pickup details. 705-286-3628

**14' LANGFORD CEDAR STRIP CANOE** "Heritage" Brand New hasn't see water asking \$5500 Firm 6' X 12' **APOGEE** aluminium utility trailer folding New last Spring Asking \$5500 Firm and **PEARL DRUM SET** 5 pc \$500 firm. **CALL 705 457 7987**

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**Haliburton County Public Library**

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**Haliburton County Public Library Requires a**

**Part-time Courier**

This position is responsible for the safe and timely delivery of library materials. The successful applicant will possess secondary education, a valid G licence, as well as the ability to lift and move objects weighing up to 50 lbs.

The hourly range for this permanent position is \$16.08 - \$18.65.

Visit our website at [www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers) for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to [shume@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:shume@haliburtoncounty.ca) no later than December 17, 2021 at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

### 380 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

**SELF CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS** for rent, discounts available, located on Industrial Park Road in Haliburton. **CALL 705 457-1224.**

### 400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



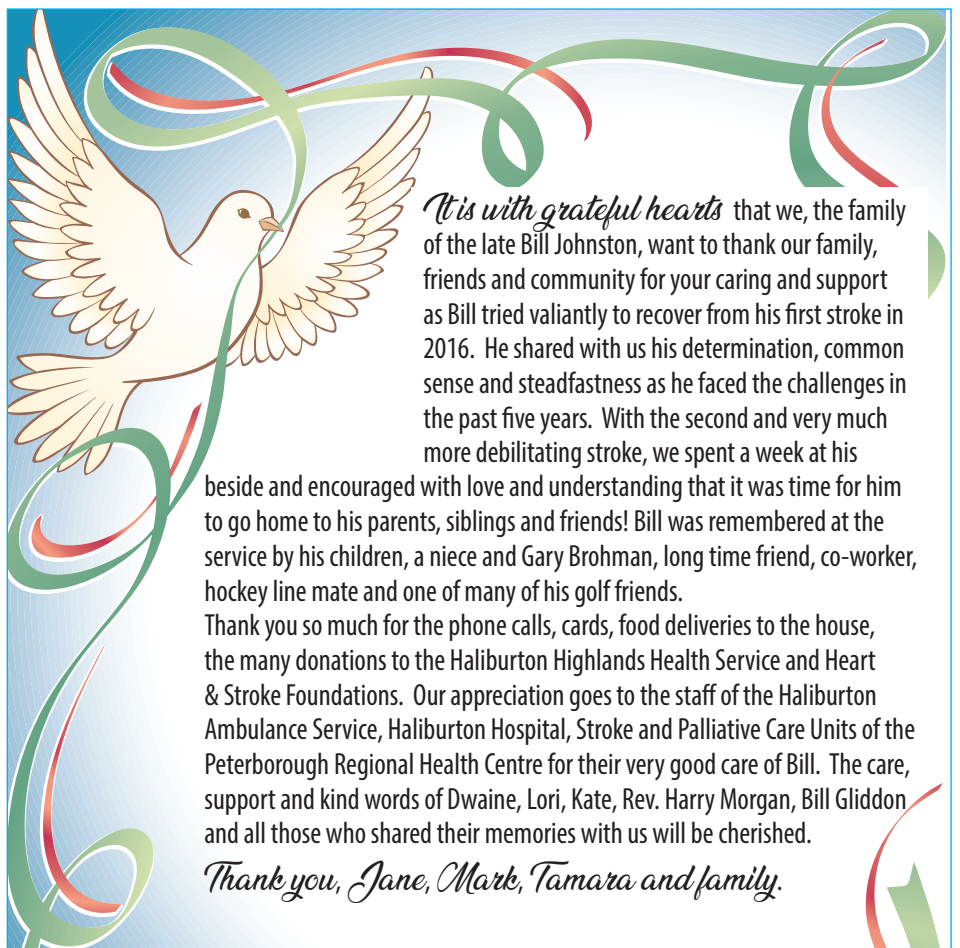
#### Sales Clerk Position

Applications are being accepted for positions of full and part-time sales clerk at our Carnarvon store. Responsibilities include processing orders, customer service and inventory control handling. Successful candidates should have a good working knowledge of lumber products and good computer skills.

Please submit resumes to  
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**Attention Ryan Emmerson,**  
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or  
email [ryan@cottagecbs.com](mailto:ryan@cottagecbs.com)

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### 520 THANK YOU



*It is with grateful hearts* that we, the family of the late Bill Johnston, want to thank our family, friends and community for your caring and support as Bill tried valiantly to recover from his first stroke in 2016. He shared with us his determination, common sense and steadfastness as he faced the challenges in the past five years. With the second and very much more debilitating stroke, we spent a week at his beside and encouraged with love and understanding that it was time for him to go home to his parents, siblings and friends! Bill was remembered at the service by his children, a niece and Gary Brohman, long time friend, co-worker, hockey line mate and one of many of his golf friends. Thank you so much for the phone calls, cards, food deliveries to the house, the many donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Service and Heart & Stroke Foundations. Our appreciation goes to the staff of the Haliburton Ambulance Service, Haliburton Hospital, Stroke and Palliative Care Units of the Peterborough Regional Health Centre for their very good care of Bill. The care, support and kind words of Dwaine, Lori, Kate, Rev. Harry Morgan, Bill Gliddon and all those who shared their memories with us will be cherished.

*Thank you, Jane, Mark, Tamara and family.*

# Minden Times Classifieds

Call 705-286-1288  
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com  
Deadline 4 pm Monday

## 400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

## 580 NOTICES



**Haliburton Highlands Health Services** has a need for Full-Time, Part-Time (Permanent and/or Temporary) and Casual staff for the noted classifications below.

**RN's and RPN's** are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest. The **Registered Nurse** earns \$33.90 /hr - \$48.53/hr and is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Two years of acute care practice and one year or more of previous emergency department or specialty department experience is preferred. **Temporary accommodation will be provided.**

**Registered Practical Nurses** earn \$30.58 - \$31.75/hr and provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a client's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to fully communicate in English.

**Personnel Support Workers** earns \$22.25 - \$24.85/hr and provide resident care in relation to activities of daily living. PSW's help residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. Successful completion of Personal Support Worker program which meets one of the following:  
The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities,  
The standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or  
The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association; and  
Must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration, counting both class time and practical experience.

Interested: Submit your application and resume to:

**Human Resources**  
**Haliburton Highlands Health Services**  
**Box 115, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0**  
**E-mail: hr@hhhs.ca**  
**Fax: 705-457-4609**

## Anglican Church Christmas Eve Services Dec 24th

**St. Peter's Maple Lake 2:00 PM**  
**St. James' Kinmount 4:00 PM**  
**St. Paul's Minden 7:00 PM**

Are you away the most Holy night of the year?  
If so, come and worship on Dec 19th for  
an early Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 PM  
St. Paul's Minden.



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For information and a list of stores selling bingo sheets go to  
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# Minden Times Classifieds

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## 600 FUNERAL SERVICES



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## 650 OBITUARIES

### In Loving Memory of **Kathryn Ruth Roberts**



Passed away peacefully at Hospice Peterborough on Friday, December 10, 2021.

Survived by her brother Robert (Diane) Bell. Nephew John (Dawn) Bell. Will be missed by her friends and neighbours at the Stanworth Apartments in Minden.

Interment will take place at a later date at Minden Cemetery. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 123 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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## 650 OBITUARIES



### **Ronald "Ron" Perrin Sr. aka Chaz and Hawk** (Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

**November 24, 2021**

*Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital with his family by his side on Wednesday morning, November 24, 2021 in his 75th year.*

Beloved husband and best friend of Barbara Perrin (nee Winfield). Loving father of Ron Jr. (Venesa) and Shaun (Stacey). Loving Grumps of Shelby (Derek), Hailly (Morgan), Tyler (Samantha), Maria, Zach, Liam, Jacob and by his great grandchildren Nolan and Mya. Dear brother of Donna (Ron) and Jim (Barb). Also fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Ron worked for Ronald S. Sisson Builders for over 25 years. He was an excellent carpenter and builder. He will be sadly missed by many. Ron enjoyed hunting, fishing and horseshoes. Most of all, he enjoyed his family and would do anything for them.

#### **Celebration Of Life**

A Celebration of Life will take place Saturday, January 8, 2022, at the Royal Canadian Legion, Haliburton Branch # 129 from 1-4 p.m.. Interment later Evergreen Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

[www.communityfuneralhomes.com](http://www.communityfuneralhomes.com)

### In Loving Memory of

### **Thomas "Tommy" Mark Williamson**



Passed away peacefully in his 81st year at the Haliburton Hospital on Tuesday, December 7, 2021.

Devoted husband to the late Sharon Williamson (2018). Dear father of Lori and husband Russ of Ajax, Lee and his wife Stephanie of Brooklin. Loving Poppy to William, Mark, Katherine, Sean, Dane and Reagan. Tommy was the only son of Walter and Mildred. Fondly remembered by his friends and family.

A visitation will be held at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Road, P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Thursday, December 16th, 2021 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Service to Celebrate Tommy's Life at 1:30 pm. Reception to follow service at Mistivale. Internment to be held in the spring at the Kinmount Cemetery.

**Please Note All patrons (visitors) must provide proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and identification prior to entering. Social distancing, face coverings and lists for the names and phone numbers of the visiting attendees are required for contact tracing.**

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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**Memories, share them here...**

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## KINMOUNT PARADE

Santa Claus visits  
Kinmount.  
Feature page 21.

## IN BRIEF

Community Care is offering a new program for seniors being released from hospital. It includes a ride home, and a PSW for help with household needs. Call, 457-2941 or HAL@communitycare-haliburton.com.

## IN QUOTES

"I told him if he thought he could do a better job, he could apply for the position of roads superintendent."

Jim McMahon said of George Simmons's snowplough comments.  
Page 4

# More than enough snow!

by ANGELICA BLENICH  
Times Staff

After experiencing a tame and blissfully mild autumn, it seems as though Mother Nature is making up for lost time.

On Friday, Dec. 11, Reeve Jim McMahon officially declared a state of emergency for the township of Minden Hills. After a record snowfall hit the area over a number of days, McMahon decided it was time to shut municipal services down.

"Well it started at midnight last night and it's still going," says McMahon of the endless amount of snow the township had already received when he was interviewed Friday. "I declared ... a state of emergency at 1 a.m."

According to local weather observer Phil Graham, Thursday's accumulation of snow reached 66 cm, beating the previous one-day snowfall record of 48 cm, which occurred on December 11, 2000,

see SNOW page 5



## Candy canes for all!

There was plenty of candy to go around at the Kinmount Santa Claus parade Sunday. See more photos on page 21. /Photo by Jenn Watt

# Minden girls honoured for bravery

by TERRANCE GAVAN  
Times Staff

Two young girls received an award for bravery from the township of Minden Hills during the regular meeting of council.

Ten-year-old Taylor Coltman and her young-

The following is a brief summary of news items from the Minden Hills council held Dec. 10.

see SISTERS page 14

**Home hardware building centre**

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he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

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ghall@floydhallinsurance.com

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# In The Spirit Of Giving This Christmas

Purchase tickets for a draw for Christmas Dinner the money raised will be donated to the Haliburton Food Bank.

We're holding a draw for 5 turkeys from McFaddens Meat Market, each with a \$50 gift card to Haliburton Foodland for the fixings.

To enter the draw visit Haliburton or Minden Century 21 office or enter online at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/century-21s-holiday-fundraiser/>

Haliburton Office: 191 Highland Street, Haliburton

Minden Office: 2 IGA Road, Minden

Carnarvon Office: Corner of Hwy 35 & 118, Carnarvon

Kennisis Office: 4502 Kennisis Lake Road, Haliburton



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